

Please amend the present application as follows:

Claims

The following is a copy of Applicant's claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("___") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("——") or brackets ("[[]]"), as is applicable:

1. (Currently amended) A conveyor comprising:

a ~~modular~~ conveyor belt including[[[:]]] a ~~plurality of mat top chains having a~~ plurality of cavities[[[:]]] and a plurality of first diverting rollers, each diverting roller being disposed in ~~the cavities of the mat top chains~~ a cavity; and

at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller having an axis that extends in a direction of travel of the ~~modular~~ conveyor belt and that can ~~operatively~~ couple to the plurality of ~~first~~ diverting rollers, such that to cause the first diverting rollers rotate as they conveyor belt ~~travels travel~~ along the ~~second~~ at least one transverse roller.

2. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller is located underneath the conveyor belt and the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller rotates in a direction transverse to the rotational direction of the ~~first~~ diverting rollers as the conveyor belt travels ~~along the at least one second roller~~.

3. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller ~~is positioned to~~ rotates in a direction substantially

perpendicular to the direction of belt travel when the at least one transverse roller couples to the plurality of diverting rollers.

4. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, wherein the conveyor belt comprises mat-top chains that comprise hinge elements that link multiple mat-top chains together to form a the conveyor belt.

5. (Original) The conveyor as defined in claim 4, wherein the hinge elements comprise interleaved hinge elements having axially aligned holes.

6. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of support members that ~~supports~~ support the conveyor belt.

7. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller is vertically displaceable toward or away from the conveyor belt, wherein when the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller is displaced toward the conveyor belt and engages the ~~first~~ plurality of diverting rollers[[,]] the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller rotates the ~~first~~ diverting rollers as the conveyor belt travels ~~along the at least one second roller.~~

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, wherein rotation of the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller causes the first rollers to rotate with reduced slippage.

10. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, wherein the first rollers are aligned in the cavities ~~of the mat top~~ at an angle ~~that is different from~~ relative to the direction of belt travel enabling the first rollers to convey objects ~~toward the sides or the middle of the conveyor belt~~ in a direction transverse to the direction of belt travel.

11. (Currently amended) A conveyor comprising:

a ~~modular~~ conveyor belt that travels in a linear motion, the conveyor belt including~~[[:]]~~ a plurality of ~~mat top chains having a plurality of~~ cavities~~[[:]]~~ and a plurality of first diverting rollers, each diverting roller disposed in ~~the cavities of the mat top chains~~ a cavity; and

~~at least one second~~ a plurality of transverse rollers having axes that extends extend along in a direction of the linear motion belt travel, and that the transverse rollers being free to rotate and being adapted to ~~operatively couples~~ couple to the ~~first~~ plurality of diverting rollers, wherein such coupling that causes the first diverting rollers to rotate in a first direction transverse to the direction of belt travel and the ~~at least one second transverse rollers to rotates rotate~~ in a second direction transverse to the ~~rotational direction of the first rollers as the conveyor belt travels along the at least one second roller direction of belt travel, wherein the rotation of the at least one second roller causes the~~

~~first rollers to rotate with reduced slippage~~ the second direction being different from the first direction.

12. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 11, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of second transverse rollers ~~is~~ are located underneath the conveyor belt.

13. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 11, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of second transverse rollers ~~is positioned to rotate~~ in a direction substantially perpendicular to the direction of belt travel.

14. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 11, wherein the conveyor belt comprises mat-top chains that comprise hinge elements that link multiple mat-top chains together to form a the conveyor belt.

15. (Original) The conveyor as defined in claim 14, wherein the hinge elements comprise interleaved hinge elements having axially aligned holes.

16. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 11, further comprising a plurality of support members that ~~supports~~ support the conveyor belt.

17. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 11, wherein the ~~at least one~~ plurality of second transverse rollers ~~is~~ are vertically displaceable toward or away from the conveyor belt, wherein when the ~~at least one~~ plurality of second transverse

rollers ~~is~~ are displaced toward the conveyor belt and ~~engages~~ engage the first plurality of diverting rollers, the ~~at least one second~~ transverse rollers ~~rotates~~ rotate the first rollers as the conveyor belt travels ~~along the at least one second roller~~.

18-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) A method for conveying objects, the method comprising:

driving a ~~modular~~ conveyor belt in a first direction ~~of belt travel~~;

~~operatively~~ coupling a ~~plurality of first~~ diverting rollers disposed in the ~~modular~~ conveyor belt with ~~at least one second~~ a transverse roller that ~~has an axis that is parallel~~ is free to rotate in a direction that is transverse to the first direction ~~of belt travel~~, wherein the driving of the modular conveyor belt produces rotary motion in both the ~~plurality of~~ first diverting rollers and the ~~at least one second~~ transverse roller as a result of their ~~operative~~ coupling; and

~~conveying~~ diverting objects ~~on~~ from the conveyor belt using the ~~rotating first~~ diverting rollers.

21-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The method as defined in claim 20, wherein rotating the ~~first~~ diverting rollers comprises selectively rotating the ~~first~~ diverting rollers with the ~~at least one second~~ transverse roller by vertically displacing the transverse roller toward the conveyor belt and engaging the diverting rollers.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) The method as defined in claim 20, wherein rotating the ~~first~~ diverting rollers comprises rotating the ~~first~~ diverting rollers at an angle that is different from the ~~first~~ direction of the belt travel.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ linear motion of the ~~modular~~ conveyor belt generates rotary motion in the plurality of ~~first~~ diverting rollers and the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller.

28. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 1 ~~+~~ 27, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller is ~~non-driven~~ not driven except by the linear motion of the conveyor belt and the coupling with the plurality of diverting rollers.

29. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 11, wherein ~~the~~ linear travel of the ~~modular~~ conveyor belt produces rotary motion in the plurality of ~~first~~ diverting rollers and the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller ~~due to contact between these~~ rollers.

30. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim ~~11~~ 29, wherein the at least one ~~second~~ transverse roller is ~~non-driven~~ not driven except by the linear motion of the conveyor belt and the coupling with the plurality of diverting rollers.

31. (Currently amended) A conveyor comprising:
a ~~modular~~ conveyor belt that travels in a linear motion~~[[,]]~~ including~~[[:]]~~ a plurality of ~~mat top chains having a plurality of cavities[[,]]~~ and a plurality of ~~first~~ diverting rollers, each diverting roller disposed in the cavities a cavity, of the mat top chains and the cavities and diverting rollers being laterally spaced across ~~the~~ a width of the ~~modular~~ conveyor belt such that a plurality of rows of diverting rollers are provided parallel to the linear motion; and

~~at least one second~~ a transverse roller~~[[,]]~~ that extends in the direction of the linear motion and that is located under one of the plurality of rows to ~~operatively~~ couple to a row of ~~first~~ diverting rollers;

~~such that wherein~~ the ~~first~~ diverting rollers rotate in a direction transverse to the linear motion as the conveyor belt travels ~~along the at least one second~~ when the diverting rollers are coupled to the transverse roller.

32. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 31, wherein the ~~at least one second~~ transverse roller is vertically displaceable toward or away from the ~~modular~~ conveyor belt, wherein when the ~~at least one second~~ transverse roller is displaced toward the conveyor belt and engages the row of ~~first~~ diverting rollers, the ~~at least one second~~ transverse roller rotates ~~the first rollers as the conveyor belt travels along the at least one second roller~~ in a direction that is transverse to the linear motion.

33. (Currently amended) The conveyor as defined in claim 31, wherein the ~~first~~ diverting rollers are aligned in the cavities of the ~~mat top~~ conveyor belt at an angle that is different from the ~~direction of belt travel~~ linear motion enabling the ~~first~~ diverting rollers to ~~convey~~ divert objects ~~toward the sides or the middle of the conveyor belt~~ transverse to the linear motion.